

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. The claims have been amended to clarify that the triggers need not necessarily be ATVEF triggers. See, e.g. Specification at paragraph 47. No new matter is added.

All of the present claims, as amended, are patentable over Mao et al. (US 6,459,427), even in view of Carr (US 6,574,795). The Office Action concedes that Mao neither teaches nor suggests integrating interactive content with a video data stream in response to one or more triggers, as presently claimed. Notwithstanding the comments in the Office Action, Carr fails to cure this deficiency.

Carr describes a mechanism to add reliability to a unidirectional communication protocol by making a data receiver determine if some expected data is missing and, if so, send a request for the missing data to the transmitter using a supplemental communication protocol different from the unidirectional transfer protocol. The transmitter then retransmits the missing data. See Carr at Abstract.

As described by Carr, the data being transmitted can include so-called enhancement data; a term that includes ATVEF announcements, resources and triggers. An announcement indicates that enhancement data is being transmitted. Resources include files containing the content of the enhancement to be presented. Triggers synchronize the transmission of the A/V content. Carr at col. 3, ll. 35-42.

As indicated above, Carr describes a process in which a request for missing data may be made in situations where an announcement indicating the availability of data is received but a **subsequent** determination reveals that one or more segments of that data is missing. Carr at col. 4, ll. 66 - col. 5, ll. 8. Importantly, what is being described is **not** the integrating of interactive content with a video data stream in response to one or more triggers and transmitting the **integrated** stream to one or more receivers, as is presently claimed. Instead, Carr is discussing the collection

of missing data, which might include ATVEF resource files.

Stated differently, Carr's recognition that ATVEF enhancements may include ATVEF announcements, resources and triggers (something that is already defined by the ATVEF specifications) is not equivalent to actually describing actions or activities (such as integrating interactive content with a video data stream) that occur in response to such triggers.

For at least these reasons, adding the teachings of Carr to those of Mao does not yield the present invention. Hence, all of the present claims are patentable over Mao, even in view of Carr.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, please charge our deposit account 19-3140

Respectfully submitted,

SONNENSCHEN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

Dated: May 17, 2006

s/Tarek N. Fahmi/

Tarek N. Fahmi

Reg. No. 41,402

PO Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, IL 60606-1080
415/ 882-5023